

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An oral steroid hormone product having improved dissolution and release rate properties, said product comprising ~~at least one steroid hormone~~ norgestimate in admixture with lactose, wherein substantially all of said ~~at least one steroid hormone~~ norgestimate is in non-crystalline form and wherein said lactose stabilizes said ~~hormone~~ norgestimate in its non-crystalline form.
- 2-5. Cancelled
6. (currently amended) The steroid hormone product of claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein the product is one of an oral contraceptive product and a hormone replacement therapy product.
7. (currently amended) The steroid hormone product of claim 6, wherein the product is an oral contraceptive product comprising from about 10 µg to about 50 ug of an estrogen and/or from about 50 µg to about 300 µg of ~~a progestin~~ norgestimate.
- 8-17. Cancelled.